

## What is Conservation Technical Assistance?

The Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) program provides technical assistance in planning and implementing conservation systems to land users who voluntarily address natural resource concerns. CTA is a free service offered to people working to conserve, improve and sustain natural resources on private and public lands for the benefit of the larger community.



## How does CTA work?

CTA is available to all types of land users who want to apply conservation to the land and to those who must comply with government regulations requiring land and water conservation.

NRCS field staff will help you to inventory and assess the capabilities and limitations of your natural resource base and develop feasible land use and treatment alternatives so you can make informed land use decisions. A conservation plan may be developed to record your decisions and schedule the implementation of the selected conservation practices.

The working relationships that landowners and communities have with their local NRCS staff are unique. One-on-one help through flexible, voluntary programs occurs every day in local NRCS offices across the commonwealth and the country. It is the way NRCS does business, and it works.

## What is NRCS's role?

Through the CTA program, NRCS:

- Assists individual land users, communities, conservation districts, and other agencies in meeting their goals for resource stewardship
- Helps agricultural producers to address production and environmental sustainability.
- Provides technical assistance to participants in USDA cost-share and incentive programs.
- Collects, analyzes and disseminates information about the condition and trends of the nation's soil and other natural resources.
- Develops effective science-based technologies for natural resource assessment, management, and conservation.

## What is my role?

You can address natural resource concerns on your land by requesting conservation technical assistance, working with NRCS staff to develop a conservation plan, and making important decisions about land use and treatment.



## Is funding available to help implement my conservation plan?

The conservation technical assistance program, provides the basis for implementation of many other programs authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill, like the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Cost-share funding may be available through these programs for installation of some conservation practices.

## How do I request CTA?

To obtain conservation technical assistance, contact your local USDA-NRCS office (see the listing on the back panel of this brochure).



## The benefits of CTA

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) offers technical assistance for planning and implementing natural resource solutions to

- Reduce erosion
- Improve soil health and productivity
- Improve water quantity and quality
- Improve and conserve wetlands
- Enhance fish and wildlife habitat and restore natural ecosystems
- Improve air quality
- Improve pasture health
- Improve woodlands
- Address other natural resource issues



## USDA-NRCS Offices

### Massachusetts State Office

451 West Street, Amherst, MA 01002  
413-253-4350

### Barnstable Field Office

270 Communications Way, Unit 1G, Hyannis, MA 02601  
508-771-6476

### Greenfield Field Office

55 Federal Street, Room 290, Greenfield, MA 01301  
413-772-0384 ext 3

### Hadley Field Office

195 Russell Street, Suite B6, Hadley, MA 01035  
413-585-1000 ext 3

### Holden Field Office

52 Boyden Road, Room 10, Holden, MA 01520  
508-829-4477 ext 3

### Pittsfield Field Office

78 Center Street, Suite 206, Pittsfield, MA 01201  
413-443-1776 ext 3

### Westford Field Office

319 Littleton Road, Suite 302, Westford, MA 01886  
978-692-1904 ext 3

### West Wareham Field Office

15 Cranberry Highway, West Wareham, MA 02576  
508-295-5151 ext 2

For more information on Conservation  
Technical Assistance in Massachusetts visit:

[www.ma.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ma.nrcs.usda.gov)

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United States Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

# Conservation Technical Assistance in Massachusetts

